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**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE**  
**SELECT COMMITTEE**

*Appointed under Resolution No. 167 Assembly, in regard to  
New Lisbon Town Lots as bribes.*

**APRIL 15TH, A. D. 1858—THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.**

Committee met according to agreement.

Present: Messrs. Prentice and Sharp; absent, N. M. Juneau.

Committee proceeded to the examination of the matters confided to their charge. Mr. Prentice acting as Chairman, and J. W. Sharp as Clerk.

Horace Crosswell, Register of Deeds of the county of Juneau, was sworn by J. W. Sharp, and testified, which testimony is on file with the committee. On motion adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 16TH.**

Committee met. Mr. Juneau absent. Testimony of Mr. Crosswell taken yesterday, revised and corrected, signed and sworn to by the witness.

Additional testimony of the witness taken down also in writing, signed by the witness and sworn to, testimony on file with committee.

THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

Committee met. Mr. Juneau still absent. Mr. Andrew Dunn of Portage City sworn by committee. Testimony taken down in writing. Subscribed and sworn to by the witness, and testimony on file with the committee.

W. H. PRENTICE,

J. W. SHARP,

*Committee.*

Andrew Dunn being duly sworn by J. W. Sharp, a member of the committee, testifies as follows :

I reside at Portage City, in this State ; have resided there about twenty years ; I bought the undivided half of Wilson's interest in the village of New Lisbon, on or about the twenty-fifth day of December, A. D. 1855 ; I purchased it of Amos Wilson. Mr. Wilson and myself sold the undivided quarter of our interest on or about the time of the regular session of the Legislature in A. D. 1856, to Thomas Falvey and Mr. Farr, who were both members of the Legislature at that time ; that is, we sold to them one fourth of our interest in the New Lisbon village property at that time. The deed was not executed until about the last of December of the same year. The deed was made to Thomas Falvey. I understood from Thomas Falvey at the time the deed was made out, that he had bought out Mr. Farr's interest. Mr. Farr afterwards told me that it was all right.

*Question.*—Did you or did you not directly or indirectly previous to the final vote being taken in the Assembly on the 26th day of February, 1857, offer any bribe or offer any inducement by promise of money, town lots, or other property or thing of value as a consideration for such member or members to vote against the reconsideration of the vote by which the Assembly refused to order to be engrossed No. 376 A, a

bill to provide for the removal of the county seat of Juneau county?

*Answer by the witness.*—According to the best of my knowledge and belief, I did not.

*Question.*—Did you directly or indirectly give to any member of the Legislature of A. D. 1857, any money, or any deed, bond, or conveyance of any lot or lots, either in the village of New Lisbon or Portage City, in consideration of any vote given or to be given at that time by any member of the Legislature against the removal of the county seat of Juneau county, or against a submission of the question to a vote of the people of that county?

*Answer.*—I did not.

*Question.*—Do you know of any deed or town lots in the village of New Lisbon being given to any officer of the Legislature in the year A. D. 1857; if so, what was the consideration given by such officer for said lots?

*Answer.*—There was a deed executed by Thomas Falvey and myself to D. A. Reed, Postmaster of the Assembly in the year A. D. 1857, said deed was a conveyance of, I think, five lots in the village of New Lisbon. Said deed was drawn in the city of Madison during the extra session of the Legislature, and signed by Mr. Falvey and myself at that time.

Mr. Reed was to pay between five hundred dollars and one thousand dollars for the lots; I do not now recollect the exact amount. Mr. Reed told me that Mr. Falvey had agreed to take his notes for the amount he was to pay for the lots. Mr. Falvey told me that Mr. Reed was to secure the payment of the amount to be paid for the lots by mortgage on the same; I did not sign the deed with any understanding that the whole or any part of the value thereof was given, or was to be given for any influence or efforts made or to be made on the part of said Reed in procuring or to procure the defeat of any bill or measure calculated to have a tendency to remove the county seat from New Lisbon, or to submit the question to a vote of the people.

I do not know of any bribe or bribes being offered to or accepted by any member or officer of the Legislature of 1857 on the Juneau county seat question of my own personal knowledge.

ANDREW DUNN.

STATE OF WISCONSIN, )  
*Dane County,* ) ss.  
 City of Madison, )

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day of April,  
 A. D. 1858.

J. W. SHARP,

*Member of the Committee,*

Horace Crosswell being duly sworn by J. W. Sharp, deposed as follows :

I am Register of Deeds for the county of Juneau, in this State ; was elected to that office on the third day of February, A. D. 1857 ; was qualified and entered upon the duties of the office on the sixteenth day of the same month. I was the first Register of Deeds in and for said county, and have held the office from that time to the present. I have carefully examined the records in my office and do not find any transfer by deed or otherwise, of any lot or lots in the village of New Lisbon, by Andrew Dunn, Thomas Falvey or any other proprietor or proprietors of said village, to any member of the Legislature of A. D. 1857. I would also state that the transcripts of the records from the county of Adams to the county of Juneau as contemplated by the act of the Legislature in October, A. D. 1856, providing for the organization of the county of Juneau ; have not been received by me ; I would also further state that the Register of Deeds of the county of Adams, has received and recorded deeds and mortgages since February, A. D. 1857, of lands lying in Juneau county, and I think, he has recorded some as late as June, A. D. 1857.

There is nothing on the records in my office, to my knowledge, showing that any deed or transfer of any lot or lots has been made to the wife of any member of the Legislature, by

or from any of the proprietors of the village of New Lisbon. There was received by me to put on record in my office, some time in January or February, A. D. 1858, a deed of some five or six lots in the village of New Lisbon, executed by Andrew Dunn and Thomas Falvey to D. A. Reed, Postmaster of the Assembly in A. D. 1857; said deed was executed, I believe, about the last of February, A. D. 1857. I did not understand by the summons served on me that I was required to bring abstracts showing whether any officer of the Legislature had received any town lots, and hence I have no such abstract with me, but I have examined the records in relation thereto, and find the facts substantially as above stated as an abstract will show, which abstract I will cause to be laid before the committee, properly certified and sworn to, if the committee require.

*Question by Mr. Prentice.*—Do you know anything of the consideration given for the lots named in the deed?

*Answer by the witness.*—I do not.

HORACE CROSWELL,  
*Register of Deeds, Juneau County, Wis,*

STATE OF WISCONSIN, }  
Dane County, } ss.  
City of Madison. }

Subscribed and sworn to before me this sixteenth day of April, A. D. 1858.

J. W. SHARP,  
*Member of the Committee.*